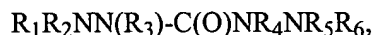


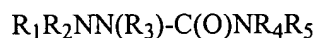
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An aqueous acid composition comprising
  - (a) an aqueous acid;
  - (b) a polymeric gelling agent that crosslinks in the presence of ferric ions at a pH of about 2 or greater;
  - (c) a soluble ferric salt in an amount sufficient to crosslink said polymeric gelling agent at a pH of about 2 or greater, but which does not crosslink said polymeric gelling agent at a pH below about 2; and
  - (d) an effective amount of a source of a reducing agent, said reducing agent selected from the group consisting of hydroxylamine and a hydrazine, said source selected from the group consisting of carbohydrazides, semicarbohydrazides, aldoximes and ketoximes.
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the source of the hydrazine is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrazides having the formula



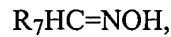
and semicarbohydrazides having the formula



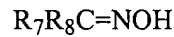
wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  may be the same or different and may be hydrogen or a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms.

3. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 2 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  in the carbohydrazide is carbohydrazide wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  are each represent hydrogen.
4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 2 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_5$  in the semicarbohydrazide is semicarbohydrazide wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_5$  are each represent hydrogen.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of a aldoximes having the formula

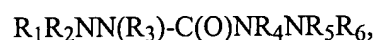


and ketoximes having the formula

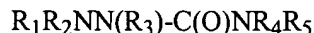


wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may be the same or different and may be a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 8 carbon atoms and further wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may form a ring.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 5 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of 2-butanone oxime, methyl isobutyl ketoxime, cyclohexanone oxime, acetaldoxime, butyraldoxime, propionaldoxime, heptaldoxime, 3-heptanone oxime, and acetophenone oxime.
7. (Original) The composition of claim 6 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is 2-butanone oxime.
8. (Currently Amended) A method of acidizing a subterranean formation penetrated by a wellbore comprising the step of injecting into said formation through said wellbore a fluid comprising
- (a) an aqueous acid;
  - (b) a polymeric gelling agent that crosslinks in the presence of ferric ions at a pH of about 2 or greater;
  - (c) a soluble ferric salt in an amount sufficient to crosslink said polymeric gelling agent at a pH of about 2 or greater, but which does not crosslink said polymeric gelling agent at a pH below about 2; and
  - (d) an effective amount of a source of a reducing agent, said reducing agent selected from the group consisting of hydroxylamine and a hydrazine, said source selected from the group consisting of carbohydrazides, semicarbohydrazides, aldoximes and ketoximes.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the source of the hydrazine is selected from the group consisting of carbohydrazides having the formula

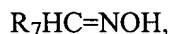


and semicarbohydrazides having the formula

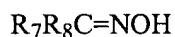


wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  may be the same or different and may be hydrogen or a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  in the carbonylhydrazide is carbonylhydrazide wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  are each represent hydrogen.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_5$  in the semicarbohydrazide is semicarbohydrazide wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_5$  are each represent hydrogen.
12. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of a aldoximes having the formula

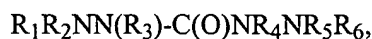


and ketoximes having the formula

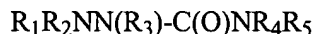


wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may be the same or different and may be a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 8 carbon atoms and further wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may form a ring.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of 2-butanone oxime, methyl isobutyl ketoxime, cyclohexanone oxime, acetaldoxime, butyraldoxime, propionaldoxime, heptaldoxime, 3-heptanone oxime, and acetophenone oxime.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is 2-butanone oxime.
15. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of injecting into said formation through said wellbore is conducted at a pressure and flow rate sufficient to create a fracture in said formation.
16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the source of the hydrazine is selected from the group consisting of carbonylhydrazides having the formula

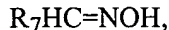


and semicarbohydrazides having the formula

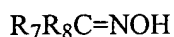


wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  may be the same or different and may be hydrogen or a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 6 carbon atoms.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_6$  in the carbonylhydrazide is carbonylhydrazide wherein  $R_4$  through  $R_6$  are each hydrogen.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein  $R_1$  through  $R_5$  in the semicarbohydrazide is semicarbohydrazide wherein  $R_4$  through  $R_5$  are each represent hydrogen.
19. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of a aldoximes having the formula



and ketoximes having the formula



wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may be the same or different and may be a branched, cyclic, or straight chained, saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon having from 1 to about 8 carbon atoms and further wherein  $R_7$  and  $R_8$  may form a ring.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is selected from the group consisting of 2-butanone oxime, methyl isobutyl ketoxime, cyclohexanone oxime, acetaldoxime, butyraldoxime, propionaldoxime, heptaldoxime, 3-heptanone oxime, and acetophenone oxime.
21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the source of the hydroxylamine is 2-butanone oxime.